

## OPINION 1533

### *Holothuria arenicola* Semper, 1868 (Echinodermata, Holothuroidea): specific name conserved

#### Ruling

(1) Under the plenary powers the following specific names are hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy:

(a) *humilis* Selenka, 1867, as published in the binomen *Holothuria humilis*;

(b) *brandtii* Selenka, 1867, as published in the binomen *Holothuria brandtii*.

(2) The name *arenicola* Semper, 1868, as published in the binomen *Holothuria arenicola*, is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

(3) The following names are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology:

(a) *humilis* Selenka, 1867, as published in the binomen *Holothuria humilis* and as suppressed in (1)(a) above;

(b) *brandtii* Selenka, 1867, as published in the binomen *Holothuria brandtii* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above.

#### History of Case 2415

An application for the conservation of *Holothuria arenicola* Semper, 1868 was received from Drs D. L. Pawson (*National Museum of Natural History, Washington, U.S.A.*) and J. E. Miller (*Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution, Florida, U.S.A.*) on 8 July 1982. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 44: 114–115 (June 1987). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals.

With relevance to para. 2 of the application, Clark & Rowe (1967, BZN 24: 99 and 1982, BZN 39: 29) pointed out that Ludwig (1881, p. 595) had, by examination of the type specimens, found that *Sporadipus maculatus* Brandt, 1835 (p. 46) was conspecific with *Holothuria arenicola* Semper, 1868. Selenka (1867, p. 339) had regarded *S. maculatus* as congeneric with *H. (Microlethe) maculata* Brandt, 1835 (p. 54), and, acting as a first reviser, had given the replacement name *brandtii* for the former species. Both Brandt's names *maculata*, which have caused much confusion, are junior homonyms of *H. maculata* Chamisso & Eysenhardt, 1821. The valid specific name for *H. (M.) maculata* Brandt, 1835 is *nobilis* Selenka, 1867 (see BZN 24: 100). *H. brandtii* Selenka, 1867 has not been used as valid, and Clark & Rowe (see above) proposed its suppression to conserve *H. arenicola*; this additional proposal was incorporated in the voting papers.

#### Decision of the Commission

On 1 September 1988 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 44: 115, together with an additional proposal to suppress *H. brandtii* Selenka, 1867 and place it on the Official Index. At the close of the voting period on 1 December 1988 the votes were as follows:

Affirmative votes — 15: Bayer, Cocks, Corliss, Hahn, Halvorsen, Heppell, Kabata, Kraus, Melville, Ride, Savage, Schuster, Starobogatov, Uéno, Willink

Negative votes — 2: Lehtinen and Mroczkowski.

No votes were returned by Dupuis, Gruchy and Trjapitzin.

Cogger, Holthuis and Thompson were on leave of absence.

Mroczkowski considered that the relative precedence procedure should be applied as the names *brandtii* Selenka, 1867, *humilis* Selenka, 1867 and *arenicola* Semper, 1868 are only subjective synonyms.

### Original references

The following are the original references to the names placed on an Official List and an Official Index by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*arenicola*, *Holothuria*, Semper, 1868, *Reisen im Archipel der Philippinen II*, vol. 1, p. 81.

*brandtii*, *Holothuria*, Selenka, 1867, *Zeitschrift für Wissenschaftliche Zoologie*, 17: 339.

*humilis*, *Holothuria*, Selenka, 1867, *Zeitschrift für Wissenschaftliche Zoologie*, 17: 339.